

Montana Watershed Coordination Council
2009 Nonpoint Source Pollution 319 Grant Application Review Opportunity

Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) issued a Call for Grant Applications this summer under Section 319(h) of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) for the Fiscal Year 2009. There are three categories for competitive projects:

1. Watershed Restoration
2. Ground Water Protection / Restoration
3. Education and Outreach

The Montana Watershed Coordination Council's Water Activities Work Group (WAWG), Groundwater Work Group, and Education/Outreach Work Group have been asked to assist the MDEQ nonpoint source program staff in reviewing and providing comment on the draft 319 grant applications. The Work Groups will review the corresponding draft applications and provide comments on the project and / or application. **The purpose for this review is to provide the applicants with recommendations for strengthening their applications.** The recommended edits/comments will be provided in written form to the applicants by MDEQ by November 28th, 2008.

Draft grant applications are due to the MDEQ by October 31st, 2008. The draft applications will be loaded onto a website as they come in to the MDEQ. The MDEQ will notify MWCC members via email as the applications become available for viewing. The work groups will be able to do their initial review and commenting on the website:

<https://montananps319grants.pbwiki.com/> . This URL address will bring you to the Montana NPS 319 Review front page. You will need to request access to the website, which you can do on the front page. Please include your name and affiliation when you request access. Also from the front page, you can access the pages for Watershed Restoration, Groundwater, and E&O applications. Each section's page will have their respective applications available for viewing and comment. The front page also includes the 2009 Call for Grant Applications, and spreadsheets summarizing 319-funded projects over the past five years.

The work groups will meet to discuss the website comments and provide recommendations for each applicant's draft application. The WAWG will meet on November 13th at the DEQ, room 35. The time for this meeting will be set once the number of watershed restoration applications is known. The E&O work group will meet on November 14th at the MDEQ, room 35 at 11am. The Groundwater work group will need to decide if they will meet the week of Nov. 10th-14th, depending on the number of draft applications received and group interest in meeting. Grant applicants will be encouraged to attend the meetings for the discussion of their proposals.

Conferencing in via phone will be available for all three work group meetings. Please notify one of the contacts if you would like to phone into a meeting. If you need to request special accommodations for a meeting please let us know.

Please direct any questions regarding the review of NPS 319 draft applications to either:

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